

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-11, and 63 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5-7, and 63 are amended by the present amendment. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 1, 4-11, and 63 were objected to because of informalities. Claims 1, 4-11, and 63 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that Claims 1, 4-11, and 63 include allowable subject matter.

With regard to the objection to Claims 1, 4-11 and 63, it is respectfully requested that this objection be withdrawn in light of the following discussion.

Amended Claim 63 recites, “said tolerable level is a wavefront aberration at a most peripheral portion of said optical spot of 0.5λ or lower at a peak valley value.” Thus, the term “tolerable level” is provided with a specific definition by Claim 63. Further, the phrase “tolerable level” in independent Claim 1 must be construed consistent with this definition in Claim 63, but also encompassing other tolerable levels of wavefront aberration. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the phrase “tolerable level” is properly defined by the pending claims.

Further, Claims 1 and 5-7 are amended to delete the word “special.” Consequently, it is believed that the objection to Claims 1, 4-11, and 63 is overcome.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)